

Boulder Ranger District
2140 Yarmouth Avenue
Boulder, CO 80301
303-541-2500
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SHOOTING

United States Department of Agriculture

Target Shooting Information

General Rules

Recreational sport shooting (RSS) has been a longtime use of the National Forests and Grasslands. There are no designated shooting areas on the Boulder Ranger District. For more information visit www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/targetshooting.

According to the Code of Federal Regulations (title 36), recreational shooting can take place on National Forests and Grasslands as long as:

1. You are at least 150 yards from a residence, building, campsite, developed recreation area or occupied area.
2. You are not shooting across or on a National Forest System Road or an adjacent body of water.
3. You are not shooting into or within a cave.
4. You are not shooting in any manner or place where any person or property is exposed to injury or damage as a result of such discharge.
5. You are not firing any tracer bullet or incendiary ammunition.

ARP-Wide Restrictions

Forest Order 10-00-2010-02 places additional restrictions on RSS activities taking place on the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland.

- **Alcohol:** You may not possess an open container of an alcoholic beverage while discharging a firearm.
- **Targets:** You may only shoot cardboard targets, paper targets, self-healing targets, manufactured metallic targets (metal targets specifically designed for firearms), or manufactured thrown-type clay targets (clay pigeons).
- **Regional Order R02-2015-02 prohibits the use of an explosive, including exploding targets.**

*Use only the approved targets with a **safe backstop**. Do not attach your targets to trees, slash piles, log piles, fences or other improvements. Be aware of other recreationists in the area and take extra precaution when shooting.*

Flood 2013 Recovery

Colorado was greatly impacted by heavy September rains in 2013. Forest officials closed some roads, trails, and facilities. For a complete list of closures, updates and other information visit: www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/floodrecovery.

Four areas on the Boulder Ranger District were temporarily closed to Recreational Sports Shooting activities due to safety concerns after the flood. The closed areas are located in James Canyon, Lefthand Canyon, Mount Alto, and Sugarloaf Mountain. www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/targetshooting

Local Information for the Boulder Ranger District

In addition to flood closures, the following areas are closed to shooting:

- **Brainard Lake Recreational Area** - No discharging a firearm, air rifle or gas gun except for legal hunting purposes. (Order No.10-01-2013-01)
- **Lefthand Slot Canyon** - No discharging a firearm, air rifle or gas gun except for legal hunting purposes. (Order No.10-01-2012-10). *PLEASE NOTE: Target shooting within any portion of the Lefthand OHV Area is also prohibited (Order No. ARP-BRD-2016-02)*
- **Lefthand Entrance** - No discharging a firearm, air rifle or gas gun except for legal hunting purposes. Paintball guns are excluded from this restriction (UFC Order). *PLEASE NOTE: Target shooting within any portion of the Lefthand OHV Area is prohibited (Order No. ARP-BRD-2016-02)*
- **Former Allenspark Dump** - No discharging a firearm, air rifle or gas gun except for legal hunting purposes. Paintball guns are excluded from this restriction. (Order No.10-01-2012-09)
- **South Nederland** – No discharging a firearm, air rifle or gas gun except for legal hunting purposes. Paintball guns are excluded from this restriction. (Order No. 10-01-2012-11)
- **Flood Related Shooting Closure** - Four areas on the Boulder Ranger District are temporarily closed to Recreational Sports Shooting activities due to safety concerns. The closed areas are located in James Canyon, Lefthand Canyon, Mount Alto, and near Sugarloaf Mountain. (Order No. ARP-BRD-2016-02)

Etiquette

- **Keep it Safe** - Follow the Four Fundamental Rules of Firearm Safety:
 - Treat every gun as if as if it is loaded.
 - Never let the muzzle of a firearm point at anything you do not intend to shoot.
 - Keep your finger off the trigger and out of the trigger guard until your sights are on the target and you are ready to shoot.
 - Always be sure of your target and what is beyond.
- **Keep it Clean** - Practice Leave No Trace Principles: Remember to retrieve shells, target remnants including clay pigeons, and anything else you bring to the forest and grassland.

Respect Private Land

Use Motor Vehicle Use (MVUM) map while on the forests and grassland to ensure you are on a road authorized for public use. The MVUM is a free, district-specific map available at all district offices.

Report Illegal Activities

- **Boulder County Sheriff's Office: 303-441-4444**
- **Boulder Ranger District: 303-541-2500**

Remember your safety is your responsibility. Watch out for falling trees especially in bark beetle infested areas! *Dead and live trees can fall without warning.* For additional safety information visit our website at: www.fs.usda.gov/goto/arp/hazardtrees



For More Information:

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